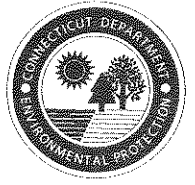


STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Wildlife Division
Geological & Natural History Survey
Natural Diversity Data Base
79 Elm Street, 6th Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

September 27, 2007

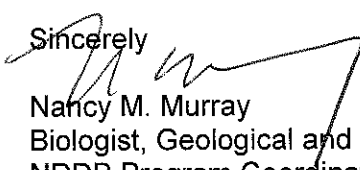
Daniel F. Caruso
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Subject: Docket No. 337
Brass Mtn. Proposed Wireless
Communication Tower

Dear Mr. Caruso,

I wanted to make sure you received a copy of this correspondence regarding the Proposed Brass Mountain. A copy was emailed to the CSC email. Please let me know if you have questions (nancy.murray@po.state.ct.us; 860-424-3589).

Sincerely


Nancy M. Murray
Biologist, Geological and Natural History Survey
NDDB Program Coordinator

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Murray, Nancy

From: Murray, Nancy
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2007 11:39 AM
To: 'Sen. Roraback, Andrew'; Allen Kinsella; NDentamaro@VHB.com; Phelps, Derek; Dean Gustafson (DGustafson@VHB.com)
Cc: Metzler, Kenneth; Chasko, Greg; May, Dale; Tyler, Tom; Emerick, Brian; CSC-DL Siting Council
Subject: RE: CT Siting Council Docket Number 337 Brass Mountain, Goshen Proposed Wireless Communications Facility

Proposed Wireless Communications Facility Brass Mountain, Goshen, CT

A site visit was conducted on September 26, 2007 to verify locations of State listed plants species reported by Mr. Kinsella from the Proposed Wireless Communications Facility Brass Mountain site. Balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*) seedlings and Naked miterwort (*Mitella nuda*) were confirmed in the wetland area at the base of the slope. Balsam fir is listed as State Endangered and Naked miterwort is listed as State Special Concern (RCSA Sec 26-306). Collections were made of currant (*Ribes*) species occurring along the Power Company Right of Way. Identification of these species typically require observations of the flower and fruits. All plants seen during the site walk were vegetative and positive identification may not be possible at this time.

Site Visit Attendants: Dean Gustafson and Nicole Dentamaro with VHB, Inc.; Allen Kinsella, Ken Metzler and Nancy Murray with CT DEP

Recommendations:

The proposed wetland crossing adjacent to the Balsam fir and Naked miterwort is designed to maintain the existing habitat. This area should be flagged as a sensitive site during construction and erosion and siltation control methods should be installed, maintained and monitored daily to ensure for the existence of the state listed plant species and their habitat. Construction staff should be informed about the area.

DEP will make every effort to identify the specimens of *Ribes* collected on September 25, 2007. However, we may need to revisit the site next May-June when the plant should be in flower. If site work is scheduled to start prior to that time, we can work with VHB/Verizon to develop a contingency plan to avoid disturbing the area. At this time, the area near Wetland Flag 6 (14 ft south of centerline) should be flagged on site and on the plans until the matter is resolved.

Our goal is to ensure that erosion and siltation during and after construction do not affect the wetland habitat where the state listed species occur. It will be very important to maintain erosion and siltation controls during the entire project. Best management practices should be used with special attention to having a contingency response plan during construction. This plan should be spelled out in the Development - Management Plan and include provisions for having extra materials available on site for rapid response to erosion and siltation events and the appointment of an independent site inspector to monitor activities. It will be extremely important to carefully plan the construction sequencing to reduce site impacts. DEP requests the opportunity to review the proposed plan to ensure that our concerns are adequately addressed.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Nancy Murray

9/27/2007

CT DEP-Wildlife Division
Geological & Natural History Survey
Natural Diversity Data Base
79 Elm Street, 6th floor
phone:860-424-3589; fax:860-424-4078

Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that endure as long as life lasts. Rachel Carson

From: Sen. Roraback, Andrew [mailto:Andrew.RoraBack@cga.ct.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 2:47 PM
To: Murray, Nancy; Allen Kinsella; NDentamaro@VHB.com
Cc: Metzler, Kenneth; Chasko, Greg; May, Dale; Tyler, Tom; Emerick, Brian
Subject: RE: UPDATE: Brass Mtn & Permission to access private property

Thanks Nancy, It is on my calendar. Andrew Roraback

From: Murray, Nancy [mailto:Nancy.Murray@po.state.ct.us]
Sent: Tue 9/18/2007 1:59 PM
To: Sen. Roraback, Andrew; Allen Kinsella; NDentamaro@VHB.com
Cc: Metzler, Kenneth; Chasko, Greg; May, Dale; Tyler, Tom; Emerick, Brian
Subject: RE: UPDATE: Brass Mtn & Permission to access private property

The Brass Mountain site visit will take place on September 25 at 9:30am. I would like to thank everyone for their assistance in getting this site visit rescheduled so quickly. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Nancy Murray
CT DEP-Wildlife Division
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9/27/2007